

# CHRON

## ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01

020266 NIA463

10/0135Z

ORIGIN OFFICE PDH-01

INFO ACOC-01 DSO-02 PD-02 NEA-03 P-01 PG-01 /011 A4 8

DRAFTED BY P/DH - SAUL S. GEFTER

APPROVED BY P - CHORNER

P/D - JMOsher

P/G - ROSS

NEA - ETHORNHILL

RAWALPINDI. ACTING UPON AHS REQUISITIONS FOR FUNDS BASED ON MONTHLY/QUARTERLY BUDGET REQUIREMENTS. TRANSFERS WILL BE MADE DIRECTLY FROM CITIBANK NEW YORK. AHS CHECKS WILL BE SIGNED BY ITS DIRECTOR AND BOOKS SET UP BY PAKISTAN ACCOUNTING FIRM WHICH WILL ALSO HAVE RECORDKEEPING/AUDIT/

BT

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NSA-21  
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P R 100131Z OCT 86

FM USIA WASHDC

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

INFO RUSBPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 0257

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

BT

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 USIA 70250

USIA

FOR PAO, PESHAWAR FOR BPAD DIXON, DEPT FOR NEA/DUNBAR

EO 12356 DECL: OADR P - CHORNER, ASSO. DIR.

SUBJECT: AFGHAN MEDIA PROJECT

REFERENCE: A1 ISLAMABAD 21141 B1 ISLAMABAD 28923

1. IC - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. BU AT MEETING CITED IN USIA 68061, AGREED TO BEGIN ACTUAL TRAINING FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY DUE TO NECESSARY ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN PAKISTAN WHICH SHOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE PRIOR MONTH.

3. DISCUSSIONS BEING HELD AT HIGHEST LEVELS TO QUICKLY RESOLVE FUNDING SITUATION. THERE IS CONCERTED EFFORT AMONG A NUMBER OF PARTIES AND POSITIVE RESULTS EXPECTED SHORTLY. TOTAL PROGRAM MAY HAVE TO BE SCALED BACK OR CERTAIN ELEMENTS DEFERRED UNTIL LATER IN FY 87 OR UNTIL FY 88. P/DH WILL KEEP POST INFORMED AS DEVELOPMENTS OCCUR.

4. PROBABILITY THAT KUSHKAKI WILL BE OUT OF PICTURE HAS CAUSED SOME CONSTERNATION. HE HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS ONE OF THE VERY FEW AFGHAN JOURNALISM PROFESSIONALS ON PAKISTAN WITH THE NECESSARY BACKGROUND, EXPERIENCE AND STATURE TO SUCCESSFULLY GUIDE AN INDEPENDENT MEDIA SERVICE. NINE MONTHS AGO IT WAS REPORTED THAT KUSHKAKI WAS LOOKED UPON BY THE ALLIANCE AS THE "LEAST OBJECTIONABLE RATHER THAN THE MOST ACCEPTABLE CANDIDATE," AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN A DEARTH OF PERSONS PREVIOUSLY NOMINATED AND CONSIDERED FOR THE DIRECTORSHIP. HOPEFULLY THE QUESTION OF A REPLACEMENT CAN BE RESOLVED QUICKLY. HEARST IS VERY INTERESTED IN HAVING INPUT INTO A NEW ROUND OF EVALUATION OF CANDIDATES. GRANTEE CONSIDERS PERSON SELECTED CRUCIAL TO BEING ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISH MISSION CALLED FOR BY GRANT. PLEASE KEEP US PLUGGED-IN ON THIS ONE.

5. SUBSTANCE OF PARA. 5, REFTEL B1 DISCUSSED WITH CHARLES SHUTT. HEART IS CONSIDERING AS ITS SENIOR MEDIA CONSULTANT IN PAKISTAN BILL COUGHLIN, RECENTLY THE FORMER MANAGING EDITOR OF THE WILMINGTON MORNING STAR. JACK KOENLER INDICATES HE HAS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION. COUGHLIN COVERED SOUTH ASIA ON ASSIGNMENT FOR THE LA TIMES AND WAS STATIONED TOY IN RAWALPINDI. HE HAS BEEN A WAR CORRESPONDENT (KOREA, VIETNAM, SUEZ, ANGOLA, ETC.); IS AN EXPERIENCED WRITER AND JOURNALISM TEACHER - MANAGED THE WRITING PROGRAM FOR THE ENTIRE CHAIN OF 33 NEW YORK TIMES NEWSPAPERS - AND IS STEEPED IN WIRE SERVICE AND PUBLICATIONS EXPERIENCE (ARTICLES FOR HARRIS, READER'S DIGEST, ETC.) P/DH UNDERSTANDS THAT COUGHLIN IS NOW CFA REP IN PESHAWAR. HEARST PRESENTLY LOOKS TO LOWBECK RELATIONSHIP WITH AFGHAN NEWS SERVICE (ANS) ON FREELANCE, PRODUCT ACQUISITION BASIS.

6. RE ISSUE OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, HEARST PRESENT PLAN IS FOR AHS TO OPEN BANK ACCOUNT AT CITIBANK IN

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PAGE 01

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DRAFTED BY P/DH - SAUL S. GEFTER  
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P/G - RROSS  
NEA - ETHORNHILL  
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P R 100131Z OCT 86  
FM USIA WASHDC  
TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 7639  
INFO RUSBPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 0858  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC  
BT  
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USIA 70250

USIA

FOR PAO. PESHAWAR FOR BPAO DIXON. DEPT FOR NEA/DUNBAR  
EO 12356 DECL: OADR P - CHORNER. ASSO. DIR.

FINANCIAL REPORT RESPONSIBILITY. HEARST RECORDS WILL BE  
AUDITED BY AGENCY OIG.

7. FYI - KUSHKAKI EXPLAINED IN LAST WEEK'S MEETING THAT HIS  
THREE PRINCIPAL REASONS TO HEADQUARTER ANS IN ISLAMABAD  
RATHER THAN IN PESHAWAR (ALTHOUGH SMALL NEWS BUREAU/FACILITA-  
TIVE OFFICE PLANNED THERE) ARE: 1) SECURITY OF FACILITIES  
AND PERSONNEL 2) ALL INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENTS COVERING  
AFGHANISTAN ARE BASED IN ISLAMABAD FOR CONTACT/COVERAGE  
PURPOSES; AND 3) GOP LIAISON OFFICER IS LOCATED IN ISLAMABAD  
TO FACILITATE ANS WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR TELEPHONE/TELEX/  
TELEPHOTO AND POSSIBLE PAKISTAN TV SATELLITE UPLINK  
TRANSMISSION OF PRINT/STILL PHOTO AND VIDEO MATERIALS. HE  
STATED THAT WHILE HE AND Y. SETHI ARE BOTH NOW LOCATED IN  
ISLAMABAD AND IT WOULD BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR THE MAIN ANS  
OFFICE TO BE LOCATED THERE, HIS PRIMARY CONSIDERATIONS ARE  
PROFESSIONAL. KUSHKAKI ALSO SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT OTHERS  
FEEL THE MAIN OFFICE SHOULD BE IN PESHAWAR BUT BELIEVES UPON  
FURTHER REFLECTION THAT THEY WOULD AGREE WITH HIS  
OBSERVATIONS. P/DH WOULD APPRECIATE POST'S VIEWS ON THIS  
SUBJECT.

8. P/DH IS IN RECEIPT OF HOAGLAND COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF  
SHUTT/KUSHKAKI BUDGETS. HEARST NOTES IT RECEIVED ALL DATA  
FOR PAKISTAN RELATED COSTS FROM S. KUSHKAKI, Y. SETHI AND MR.  
ZIQBAL OF USIS. OTHER HEARST BUDGETARY ITEMS FOR TWELVE  
MONTH PROJECTION ALSO BASED ON QUOTATIONS FROM OUTSIDE  
MEDIA/PRODUCTION SOURCES. A NUMBER OF ITEMS ALSO CAME FROM  
HEARST GRANT AMOUNT CALCULATIONS. NON-PAKISTANI RELATED COSTS  
WOULD NOT APPEAR ON EITHER SETHI OR KUSHKAKI BUDGET ESTIMATES.  
P/DH DOES NOT HAVE COPY OR ORIGINAL KUSHKAKI BUDGET NOR  
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART. IF AVAILABLE AT POST, PLEASE POUCH  
COPIES TO P/DH. (P/DH)  
STONE, ACTING

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